

CALIFORNIA CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

APRIL 2001 COMMISSION MEETING

SACRAMENTO, CA

May 17, 2001

HIGHLIGHTS

- Minutes from the April 19, 2001 Commission meeting were approved. These minutes have been posted on the State Commission's website (www.ccfc.ca.gov).
- **Kit for New Parents**

The State Commission approved two years of funding to implement and distribute the Kit for New Parents in partnership with the County Commissions. The funding, \$20 million, will support the production, distribution, shipping and evaluation of the Kit. The Kit was pilot tested with parents last year with overwhelmingly positive results that support the implementation of this program. To date, 52 County Commissions have indicated their intent to participate in the program. The Kit program will be launched on July 18, 2001.
- **Department of General Services Contract Issues**

The Commission approved Resolution CCFC R00-001, which clarified signature authority for executing contracts and to amend the Executive Director's delegated spending authority.

- **Forecasting Model for Revenue Estimates**

This was discussion item related to a staff request for approval to enter into a contract for the creation of a tobacco tax revenue projection model. There was discussion as to whether the addition of a new source of revenue estimates would prove confusing since the State Department of Finance, the State Board of Equalization and the State Department of Health Services are all doing singular revenue and tobacco consumption projections. Staff assured the Commission that all revenue projections would be done in concert with the other agencies, and in addition, the new forecasting model would provide revenue estimates farther into the future to assist budget development and strategic planning.

- **Preparation of CCFC's Budget**

The Commission was presented with a detailed listing of available funding, currently funded projects (and their future financial impacts), and proposed projects. Commissioners are in the process of ranking the projects individually to assist staff in developing a business plan. There was extensive discussion as to the level of future financial commitment the Commission is willing to make, versus maintaining a sufficient budgetary reserve to address issues on an on-going basis. There was additional discussion as to the use of the information presented related to specific projects and areas of targeted emphasis. Staff will be coming back to the Commission on this issue in the upcoming months. The Commission also expressed their concerns with the May Revise proposal and directed staff to work with the Administration and legislature on this issue.

- **Legislative Item**

Three bills were presented to the Commission for consideration as follows:

AB 1105 (Simitian and Shelley) – Child Care Assistance for Foster Families:

The Commission directed staff to gather additional information, specifically as to the possibility of including foster family agencies in the bill, and to bring this bill back to the Commission in June for reconsideration.

AB 1568 (Aroner) – Family Support in Child Care and Development Programs:

The Commission approved a “watch” position to closely monitor the bill and possibly bring it back to the Commission if it moves forward.

SB 1038 (Polanco) – California Healthy Families Vaccine Purchase Act:

The Commission will consider this bill at its June meeting after additional information is obtained.

- **Advisory Committee on Diversity**

Commissioner Vismara provided a report on the recent Planning Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Diversity. The Committee established its action plan for the coming year and set the following items as its top priorities:

- Committee infrastructure, including the Diversity Tenets
- School Readiness
- Media campaign, particularly community outreach

- **School Readiness Initiative**

Staff presented a timeline on implementing the School Readiness Initiative and was directed by the Commission to implement a limited number sites earlier than presented. Staff will report back in future meetings a revised timeline and approval.

- **Evaluation Update**

Staff from the Research and Evaluation Unit gave an overview of three initiatives that they are in the process of developing. These three initiatives are the School Readiness Initiative, the County Results and Indicators Initiative, and the Administrative Data Initiative. No action or decision was taken. A copy of the presentation is available on the CCFC website under the button titled "Research and Evaluation."